

**WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2004**

The Williamsburg City Council held a work session on June 7, 2004, at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Stryker Building.

ATTENDANCE

Present were Ms. Zeidler, Messrs. Haulman, Houghland, Scruggs, and Tabb. Also present were City Manager Tuttle, City Attorney Phillips, and City Clerk Crist.

Staff Attending: Department Heads Nester, Serra, Clayton, and Steve Martin. Assistant City Manager Miller was out of town.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Zeidler called the meeting to order.

OPEN FORUM

Mayor Zeidler opened the comment session.

Mr. Bob Hershberger, Executive Vice-President of the Chamber of Commerce, spoke on behalf of President Michael Fox, the Board of Directors, and the 900 members of the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber recognized and thanked Mr. Houghland and Mr. Tabb for their dedicated service on City Council and for their support of the Chamber of Commerce while on City Council. Mr. Hershberger wished them the best for the future.

No one else wished to speak. The session was closed.

BACKGROUND PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

Jamestown Road Traffic and Parking Study Update—Consultant's Report

Reference for this item was the Final Report "Jamestown Road Area Traffic and Parking Study" by Kimley-Horn and Associates, Incorporated. Mr. Clayton introduced Mr. Carl Tewksbury, Senior Project Engineer with Kimley-Horn.

Mr. Tewksbury said he was pleased to give an overview of the traffic study, which started last October for a one-mile section of Jamestown Road from Rolfe Road to College Corner. He gave a brief background report on this project, and noted that the public was involved in the study process.

Using a Powerpoint presentation, Mr. Tewksbury summarized the final study findings:

1. Project issues and areas of concern (traffic, residential and campus parking, pedestrian activities).
2. The project approach and work with the Advisory Committee.
3. Survey results and outcomes of two public meetings.
4. Review of College projects that could impact Jamestown Road traffic and parking.
5. Recommendations for:
 - Mitigation of construction traffic
 - Neighborhood and Campus Parking

- Short-term and long-term plans for pedestrian activity, cost and ADA issues regarding reopening the closed pedestrian tunnel from the college property under Jamestown Road
- Bicyclist Activities, Putting Jamestown Road into the Bikeway Facilitates Plan
- Traffic Calming and Traffic Operations
- Mitigation of transportation concerns along Jamestown Road
- Use of way-finding signage
- Conceptual drawing of "roundabout" at College Corner

Following Mr. Tewksbury's presentation, Mr. Clayton presented an overhead slide titled "Jamestown Road Area Traffic/Parking Study Summary of Recommendations." The information reviewed the recommendations, with the lead responsibility falling to the city or College, the cost, and time of implementation (see chart attached).

Mayor Zeidler thanked Mr. Tewksbury and Mr. Clayton, as well as the Study's Advisory Committee, especially the representatives from the neighborhood.

Council members discussed the budget impact for short-term and long-term recommendations. Mayor Zeidler emphasized that while all of the recommendations will be considered, some may not be implemented.

Mr. Houghland was opposed to the roundabout, and was of the opinion that it should be of a greater diameter in order to work, and that it would cost more to build than estimated. It needed more study. Mr. Tuttle concurred that the concept needed further study.

Discussion continued about petitioning the neighborhoods regarding certain improvements and how the costs may be shared between the residents and city. Members discussed the proposed College satellite parking lot, speed humps in residential areas, the closed pedestrian tunnel, and realignment of Campus Drive.

Mr. Phillips responded to Mr. Scruggs that should the pedestrian tunnel be improved and opened, ADA law would require the same path of access for disabled pedestrians.

Anna Martin, College of William and Mary, said that the college would have to provide incentives, and disincentives, to encourage students to use satellite parking. The college will work to mitigate construction traffic with project management and through contractual requirements. Mr. Scruggs suggested a link to the city's website would be helpful during this period.

Mayor Zeidler said the city would move forward to consider the implementation of the recommendations over a period of time, and looked forward to hearing from citizens. Mr. Haulman thanked the Advisory Committee, staff, and particularly Joyce Alewynse and Tex Turner. He encouraged taking the next step to look at detailed engineering studies.

Schedule of Departmental Orientation Sessions for City Council

Reference for this item was Mr. Tuttle's report dated June 3, 2004, which provided an outline of the two-day schedule, July 27 and July 28, for City Council orientation. Mr. Tuttle commented that this was an opportunity for Council members to talk with department heads and key staff regarding day-to-day operations.

Mayor Zeidler noted that Mr. Chohany and Mr. Freiling were present. They will be sworn in on July 1, 11:30 a.m., at the Courthouse of 1770.

Preview of City Council Meeting: June 10, 2004

No additional information was requested. The Mayor noted that a farewell reception would be held prior to the June 10 Council Meeting at 1:30 p.m., in honor of outgoing Council members Mr. Houghland and Mr. Tabb.

City Council Communications

The Mayor said that this morning she joined Newport News Mayor Joe Frank at the airport for a ribbon cutting to celebrate the addition of AirTran Airway's new route from Newport News to Boston.

Mr. Haulman reported that the Williamsburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority's Strawberry Plains Housing project has nineteen homes under contract and six more waiting to be signed. The Authority hoped to hear something soon on grant funding for Braxton Court. It was hoped that work would begin on the housing improvements on Pocahontas Street by July 1.

Mr. Haulman provided Ms. Crist with editorials about voting machines and asked that she make copies for Council and newly-elected Council members.

Mr. Haulman asked Mr. Phillips to explore developing incentives to encourage residential property owners to maintain their property, and that this matter be discussed at the next Council retreat.

Schedule of Meetings: June 2004

Mr. Tuttle noted the following events:

Reuse of the Hospital: A public forum will be held Tuesday, June 29, 7:00 p.m. at the Community Building.

Swearing-In Ceremony for new Council members and Organizational Meeting: Thursday, July 1, starting at 11:30 p.m., at the Courthouse of 1770.

OPEN FORUM

Henry Coleman, 606 College Terrace, addressed Council regarding the Jamestown Road Study report. Excellent ideas, but he was concerned about the use of a roundabout, especially by visitors, and thought more study was a good idea. Sidewalks on Jamestown Road between Campus Drive and Rolfe Road will be needed in the future. He hoped the earthen berm on campus drive would be retained because it helped to shield the view of cars and parking. The pedestrian tunnel was a bad idea from the beginning and suggested it be filled and a better solution found for a pedestrian crossing. The city should assist neighborhoods with funding of sidewalks and other improvements, in order to maintain residential character.

Stuart Goddin, 715 Goodwin Street, felt a sidewalk on Jamestown Road from Rolfe Road to Campus Drive would be premature and should wait until after the business school is constructed. Campus Drive realignment needs more study.

Olwyn Blouet, 131 Chandler Court, made the revolutionary suggestion that only local traffic be allowed on Jamestown Road from Campus Drive to College Corner, and that all other traffic be directed to other routes in town. It was very nice when Jamestown Road was blocked to traffic last weekend.

No one else wished to speak. The session was closed.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Houghland Moved that City Council go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussing one personnel matter per subparagraph 1 concerning appointments to Boards and Commissions. The Motion Was Seconded by Mr. Tabb.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:

Aye: Haulman, Scruggs, Zeidler, Houghland, and Tabb

No: None

The meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

The Mayor called a five-minute recess.

At 3:50 p.m., Council met in Open Session.

Mr. Houghland Moved the Certification of Closed Meeting. The Motion was Seconded by Mr. Tabb.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:

Aye: Haulman, Scruggs, Zeidler, Houghland, and Tabb

No: None

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Date: June 7, 2003

Motion: Mr. Houghland

Second: Mr. Tabb

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Williamsburg has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the City Council that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Williamsburg hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters

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as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the City of Williamsburg.

VOTE:

Aye: Haulman, Scruggs, Zeidler, Houghland, Tabb

No: None

Absent During Vote: None

Absent During Meeting: None

The meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Approved: July 8, 2004

Shelia Y. Crist
Clerk of Council

Jeanne Zeidler
Mayor